

## Service in Silence

Washington observers anticipate that a reorganization of the Central Intelligence Agency will be announced before too long.

It's been considered inevitable ever since the Cuban invasion fiasco. Many federal agencies were involved in the planning for the Cuban-refugee landing, including the armed services. But the general inclination, rightly or wrongly, has been to place most of the responsibility upon the CIA.

Possibly this is because there are comparatively few people in the government who actually know what the CIA does and just how extensive its fields of activities are. It is known, though, that its operatives move, under the blanket of anonymity, into most fields of overseas military and diplomatic planning. And they have been accountable to only one person, the director, Allen Dulles.

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Mr. Dulles, brother of the late secretary of state, has been director of the CIA since 1953. And as the "front man" for the secret agency, often referred to as the "cloak and dagger boys," he must take the responsibility for CIA actions.

The very nature of the operation, how-

ever, is such that public explanations of what CIA has done, and why, would defeat its very purpose. It would expose methods and, possibly, throw the unwelcome light of public identification upon key operatives whose usefulness is dependent to a great degree upon their anonymity.

So Mr. Dulles is in what most of us would consider a most unenviable position.

He must remain silent about CIA successes, for to disclose them would give information to the "other side." Yet he must also remain silent when supposed failures of his agency's operations are reported and criticized.

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In the forthcoming reorganization, Mr. Dulles is expected to go, bringing an end to a distinguished government career that originated with his appointment to a minor diplomatic post in 1916.

It may be years before the full extent of his contributions to the security of the nation and the Free World become known. It may be they never will be fully reported or acknowledged. Few men in public life are unselfish enough to serve their country in this manner.